"The Gospel Power of Food"

Food is a powerful Gospel tool!

- "A good dinner and feasting reconciles everybody"
 - quote from Samuel Pepys' diary

Feasting is Spiritual

Fruit from Garden Trees
Bread and Wine
Milk and Honey
Leeks and Onions
Oil and Plump Figs

Grapes
Roast Lamb
Savory Stew
Loaves and Fish
Marriage Feast

Food is all Through the Bible

- God told Noah the animals were food
- Abraham fed the 3 Strangers
- Leah and Rachel fought over mandrakes
- Joseph had a banquet for his brothers
- Passover is a feast
- God gave Israelites quail & manna
- Ruth ate after reaping
- Nehemiah told the assembly to feast

Food is all through the Bible

- Jesus taught us to pray, "give us our daily bread"
- He feasted at wedding in casa, at, Matthews's house, at Zacchaeus' house, and at the Last Supper
- Most of Jesus' Post-Resurrection appearances involve food

- Early Church discouraged eating meat sacrificed to idols
- God told Peter to kill and eat
- Rev. 3:20 Jesus says to those who open the door, He will come in and eat with them
- Revelations ends with a massive wedding feast

The process of having a meal





If the point wasn't made clear enough!

Faith > Hunger and Thirst

Worship ➤ Gathering around the LORD'S table

Covenant ➤ Community and **Hospitality**

A good **theology** will produce a good **meal**

Acts 2:42-47 (ESV)

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

- The passage that gives us a <u>blueprint</u> for how the church should operate includes <u>FOOD</u>!
- They <u>devoted themselves</u> to ... the breaking of <u>bread</u>
- Day by _____... Breaking bread in their **homes**

Romans 12:13 (ESV)

Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. Seek to show Hospitality

Hospitality and **Food** go Hand in Hand

Eating Together = **Fellowship**

SO...

What are **YOU** gonna do about it?

What are **WE** gonna do about it?

Food is a powerful **Gospel** tool!